



THURSDAY EVENING, DEC. 14, 1905.

NOTWITHSTANDING the testimony of witnesses before the courtmartial of Midshipman Meriwether, whose fight with Midshipman Branch ended in the latter's death, that hazing had ceased at the Naval Academy, a case of hazing, which left its victim unconscious took place at the Academy Tuesday night. Midshipman Jerdon P. Kimbrough, a member of the fourth, or "plebe," class, after being brutally treated, was carried to the academy hospital yesterday morning suffering from extreme exhaustion, induced by tiring physical exercise. He was subjected to this torture in his room in Bancroft Hall the previous night. Another of the same class, Henry G. Cooper, jr., of Oxford, N. C., is also in the hospital, having suffered a stroke of paralysis of the entire right side of the body while in a classroom yesterday. Cooper declares he has not been subjected to the "running" by any of the upper-class men for the last three months, but since he has been at the hospital it is learned that hemorrhage of the brain has occurred to him, and for this reason there appears to be some doubt as to the matter. In connection with the hazing of Kimbrough it is stated freely by midshipmen that the practice has been going on this year with redoubled vigor. While under the pledge to abstain from hazing, which they gave to Admiral Brownson, the previous superintendent, the only form was "running," which the midshipmen differentiated from hazing. Now the midshipmen have gone back to hazing in its most virulent form. It is said that midshipmen will go to any length except perjury to protect other midshipmen, but their behavior in the above mentioned cases looks like they do not stop at perjury. That hazing can be stopped at the naval academy, or at any other institution, goes without saying, that is if the officials in charge want to stop hazing.

ALTHOUGH the success of the new ferry line between this city and Washington was assured from the beginning, its patronage during the six weeks it has been in operation is encouraging to the company, showing a just appreciation of the enterprise of its officials. The new machinery of the boat is now running smoothly and hourly trips are being made between the two cities on schedule time. As has been stated, the contract for another boat, a duplicate of the Woodbury, has been awarded, and during the coming spring, when it shall have arrived here, boats will be run every half-hour. It has been suggested that the new steamer be named the Calhoun, after the energetic manager of the line, which will meet with the unanimous approval of the many friends and acquaintances of that gentleman both in this city, Washington, and the surrounding country.

IN DEFENSE of his action in going against the action of the democratic caucus on the rate bill in the last Congress, Mr. Shackelford stated in the House yesterday in his attack upon Mr. Williams that "his duty was first to the sovereign people of his sovereign congressional district, and that he placed that duty far above any allegiance which he owed to a party caucus." This again shows the wisdom of Mr. Williams in displacing Mr. Shackelford from the committee on interstate and foreign commerce. Mr. Lamar's exhibition of himself on the floor of the House yesterday was also another good reason for his removal from the committee by Mr. Williams.

THE DEATH yesterday evening of Dr. Benjamin Blackford, superintendent of the Western State Hospital at Staunton, will be a great loss to that institution, which he had managed so satisfactorily for the past fourteen years and also to the State. He was a learned and skilled physician, kind and considerate of the many unfortunates placed under his care and a manly courteous gentleman. Such men the State can ill afford to lose.

## From Washington.

(Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.) Washington, D. C., Dec. 13. The social set of the capital is already busy over the details of the wedding of Miss Alice Roosevelt to Congressman Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio, which is scheduled to take place at the White House the middle of February. It is understood from reliable sources that the ceremony will take place in the East Room, probably on the spot where Nellie Grant, daughter of President Grant, was joined in marriage to Algeron Sartoris, May 21, 1874. The Sartoris-Grant wedding was the last in the East Room, for Grover Cleveland and Frances Folsom selected the Blue Room for their ceremony, which was solemnized on the 2d of June, 1886. The first White House wedding was that of Maria Monroe and Samuel L. Gouverneur in 1820. Another notable marriage ceremony at the White House was that of Elizabeth Tyler, daughter of President Tyler, to William Waller, of Virginia, which took place on the last day of January, 1842. The wedding of Miss Roosevelt and Mr. Longworth will be the tenth on record at the White House, and bids fair to be the most brilliant. Gossips are predicting for the young couple a perfect avalanche of presents both from friends and relatives at home and from admirers of the President abroad. The Mikado of Japan and the Czar of Russia, will, it is thought, send the bride magnificent tokens and the Empress Dowager and the Emperor of China, whom Miss Alice met during her recent eastern tour, will doubtless remember their fair guest in a most substantial manner. No definite plans have yet been made by Mr. Longworth for his honeymoon, but it is understood by his friends that he is planning a long European tour to begin next June. He will be obliged to remain at the Capital until the close of the congressional session, and until that time will make his home with his bride at 331 Eighteenth street, where he is now established with his mother.

Congressman Longworth is being congratulated by telegraph, by telephone, and by word of mouth this morning. Felicitations began to reach him at breakfast time and kept coming in an uninterrupted flow. Interviewers are on his trail, and all are met with imperturbable good nature. "How long has my engagement to Miss Alice been known to the immediate members of the family?" he repeated. "Well not very long. The engagement isn't of very long standing, you see. I see that my relatives in Cincinnati declined to discuss the matter yesterday on the ground that they had no official information on the subject. Neither had I, as far as that goes. I knew I was engaged, but I didn't know it officially. My understanding was that the announcement would be made next Sunday. It was made yesterday afternoon and I didn't know it myself. That's why I had to keep perfectly quiet about it. I couldn't give out anything in advance of an announcement from the President and Mrs. Roosevelt, you see." "Did you plight your troth aboard the steamer returning from the Philippines?" Mr. Longworth was asked. The question awakened a hearty laugh. "I really don't know," he answered. "I've been in what you might call a trance for so long, that I might appear some mixed up to dates." He referred briefly to his plans for the future. "They are necessarily of a tentative nature as yet," he said. "The arrangements for the wedding will all be in the hands of Miss Roosevelt's family. There will be no extensive trip while Congress is in session, but we probably will take a short trip. Then we will remain here at our Eighteenth street home until the adjournment of Congress. It is quite likely that a European tour will follow. After that we will make Cincinnati our home." One enterprising newspaper wanted to know how he stood on the railroad rate question, whether he was in full accord with his prospective father-in-law, the President. "There will not be any trouble in the family on that question," he replied smilingly. "I voted for the Esch-Townsend bill in the last Congress and will support a measure of that character again. My mind has been quite clear on that matter for a long time."

President and Mrs. Roosevelt are receiving messages of good will today from a host of friends who are wishing Miss Alice all kinds of happiness upon her approaching marriage to Congressman Longworth. Miss Alice herself, it is said, has not been neglected by the blue coated messenger boys who have been bringing numerous telegrams to the White House, but of course the purport and the source of these messages are carefully guarded even from Miss Roosevelt's most intimate friends. Mr. Longworth says he first met Miss Roosevelt when he came to Washington, after he had been elected to Congress, and before he took his seat. It was the year she "came out." It was at a dinner at the White House one night. There seems little question but that hazing is just as prevalent as ever it was at the Naval Academy in Annapolis. Midshipmen do not designate their practice of putting plebes through the paces "hazing," the midshipman's slang has always expressed it as "running." Two cases reached the Navy Department today in which midshipmen have been suspended by Admiral Sanderford, superintendent of the academy, for "hazing." The matter was investigated by a board of officers who have made a recommendation for final disposition of the cases of Coffin and Vanderveer. The law specifies dismissal as the punishment for hazing which will probably be the sentence to be pronounced by the Secretary of the Navy. It is said that Coffin was practically caught in the act.

Representative Loud, of Michigan, a former naval officer, today introduced a resolution in the House authorizing the House committee on naval affairs "to make a thorough investigation of the situation and conditions at the Naval Academy at Annapolis," especially to ascertain and report "whether hazing, flogging and running, class fist fighting continue in practice," and to what extent the officers of the Academy have knowledge of and responsibility for existing conditions. The resolution authorizes the committee to sit either at the Capital or at the Naval Academy. A cable report was received at the State Department this morning from Singapore, relative to the refusal of Chinese workmen to make repairs on the Standard Oil Co's tank steamer Acme. A representative of the U. S. legation invoked the aid of the civil authorities to interfere with the Chinese, and this was done, the workmen finally resuming. The strike was a boycott development.

The Interstate Commerce Commission, in its annual report submitted to Congress today, discusses vigorously proposed railroad rate regulation. It urges upon Congress delegation of authority to the commission to determine what rate should be substituted in place of one found to be unlawful, such rate to take effect within reasonable time unless set aside by judicial proceedings. "It is designed in the proposed amendment," says the commission, "to confer this authority in unimpeachable terms and in conformity with the decisions of the Supreme Court and the opinion of the Attorney General respecting the powers of the courts and the constitutionality of such legislation." In its discussion of refrigeration, the commission asserts that this business has fallen into the hands of two or three companies, of which the Armour Car

Line is the principal. Extended investigations by the commission had led it to the conclusion that the charges inposed are, in some cases at least, exorbitant and that they are not uniformly exacted. The commission holds that the furnishing of refrigeration is a part of transportation, and recommends that charges for this service should be put on the same basis as all other freight charges. On the subject of terminal roads, elevated charges, and private cars, the commission says that these devices are at present more or less resorted to for the purpose of preferring one shipper to another, and asks for authority to fix a proper limit for payments therefor. Discussing the matter of rebates, the commission is compelled to modify in some degree its previously expressed hopeful expectations of the effect of the Elkins law. "Not only," says the report, "have various devices for evading the law been brought into use, but the actual payment of rebates has been here and there resumed. Instances of this kind have been established by convincing proof, on which prosecutions have been commenced and are now pending. More frequently the unjust preference is brought about by methods which may escape the penalties of the law but which clearly operate to defeat its purpose." Within a year five hundred and sixty-eight complaints were filed with the commission. The commission states that decided improvement has taken place in the past year in the condition of safety appliances on all roads subject to the provisions of the statute.

At a meeting of the Senate committee on finance this morning it was agreed to report favorably a bill to make Panama canal bonds available for deposit as a basis for national bank circulation on the same terms as existing 2 per cent. consols. The Senate today without opposition passed a bill giving the Panama canal bonds all the rights and privileges accorded to all other United States two per cent. bonds.

Representative Adams of Pennsylvania had a talk with the President this morning about his bill for the establishment of the whipping post in the District of Columbia for the punishment of wife beaters. "The President told me that he was heartily in favor of the measure," said Representative Adams. "and advised me to go ahead with it." Announcement is made at the War Department today that Major General Arthur MacArthur will be appointed lieutenant-general to succeed General Corbin when the latter is retired next September. General Corbin will be lieutenant-general from April, when General Bates will retire. General Leonard Wood will probably succeed General Corbin in the command of the Philippines. It was specifically stated that General Wood will not be chief of staff to succeed General Bates. It was stated that no selection of a general officer for this post has been made, although General Corbin and General Wood are now out of the list of possibilities. General Jack Weston, recent chief of commissary has been mentioned for the position. Any officer of general's rank is eligible, and it is probable that some comparatively youthful brigadier or major general will be appointed. Brigadier General Frederick Dent Grant is prominently mentioned among the eligibles.

Secretary Taft had a long conference with Cameron Forbes, a member of the Philippine Commission, Col. Clarence Edwards, chief of the bureau of insular affairs, and representatives of various railroad and construction interests, on the subject of Philippine railroads this morning. Arrangements were perfected today for the opening of bids tomorrow for the Philippines railroad system.

Mr. Carter, of Montana, introduced a joint resolution in the Senate today, proposing the following amendment to the Constitution: Article 16, Congress shall have the power to establish uniform marriage and divorce laws throughout the United States and to provide penalties for the violation thereof. The ship subsidy bill, which was recommended by the Merchant Marine Commission, was considered by the Senate committee on commerce this morning and Senator Gallinger was authorized to report it favorably to the Senate. Senator Mallory, dem. Florida, said that he would make a minority report against the proposed subsidy at the rate of \$5 per ton to tramp steamers. The bill was amended so as to require the steamers engaged in carrying freight and mails to Austria to make only 16 knots per hour, instead of 17, as originally provided. Favorable report was also ordered on a bill to permit the importation of tea waste and sweepings for the manufacture of chemicals only. Justice Anderson, of the District Court, this morning issued a restraining order against John W. Hays, retired president of the Knights of Labor, to prevent him from disposing of any of the property or records of the order. This action grows out of the contention between the Hays and Simon Burns factions for the control of the organization.

President Roosevelt received a call this morning from Commander Isam Takahashi, naval attaché of the Japanese Legation, who came to present his successor, Lieutenant Commander Taniguchi.

John T. Barker was appointed postmaster at Lodi, Tenn., Westmoreland county, Va., today, vice C. W. Smoot, removed.

**Dr. Benj. Blackford Dead.** Dr. Benjamin Blackford, superintendent of the Western State Hospital, Staunton, died yesterday, aged 71 years. He was a son of the late Dr. Thomas L. Blackford, a well-known physician of Lynchburg.

Dr. Blackford was a graduate of the University of Virginia, afterward of Jefferson Medical School, of Philadelphia, and was for a while resident physician at Blackley Hospital, in Philadelphia. After his return from Philadelphia he settled in Lynchburg, where he practiced medicine until 16 years ago, when he was elected superintendent of the Western State Hospital, at Staunton, which position he had held since.

Dr. Blackford was a surgeon in the Confederate army during the war and for a portion of the time in charge of the hospitals at Front Royal, and also at Liberty, in Bedford county. He was earnest and indefatigable in everything which pertained to the welfare of the patients at the hospital and was well known throughout the country as a successful alienist who kept pace with modern development in the management of insane hospitals.

Dr. Blackford's wife, Mrs. Emily C. Blackford, died two weeks ago. Dr. Blackford left six sons—Thomas A., of Wilmington, Del.; Benjamin O., and Robert N., of Staunton; Charles M., lieutenant United States army in the Philippines; W. Arthur, of West Chester, Pa.; and G. Tayloe, of Knoxville, Tenn.

The only surviving brother of Dr. Blackford is Mr. William H. Blackford, of Baltimore.

It is now stated that Gov. Montague will not leave the State at the end of his term of office, as had been reported.

## Virginia News.

Mr. Eli Janney and Miss Mary Elizabeth Catlett, both of Frederick county, were married yesterday in the Methodist Church, Bruce-town.

Miss M. Evelyn Cook, aged about 52 years, daughter of the late Samuel Cook, of Willow Brook farm, Warren county, died yesterday.

Among the Senators and Representatives who have naval appointments at their disposal are Senator Martin and Representative H. L. Maynard.

Eggs sold in Fredericksburg last week at 27 to 28. There has been a tumble of 5 cents. The highest prices now paid by the merchants of that city are 22 to 23c.

The Board of Supervisors of King George county have closed the season for partridges to take effect Wednesday, December 20th. The law will be rigidly enforced if any person is caught killing birds.

Cards have been received from Winchester, announcing the wedding on December 7, at Great Falls, Mon., of George Harfield Conrad, son of W. C. Conrad, the multi-millionaire copper and cattle king, and Miss Katherine M. Kennedy, daughter of John A. Kennedy, of Great Falls.

Eluding the watchful eye of her guardian, Miss Sally Gun, a pretty girl of Relief, Frederick county, and an heiress to a fortune of \$25,000, eloped to Hagerton Tuesday with Ollie Wise Carver, a county man, and was married in that city. The couple returned to Winchester yesterday.

After hearing the case of the Commonwealth, against Wrenn, involving the possession of Confederate muster rolls and pay rolls, in the circuit court of Richmond nearly all day Tuesday, the jury brought in a verdict to the effect that the papers were the property of the Commonwealth, but recommended that the defendant be paid something for them.

Messrs. Davis & Davis, Washington patent attorneys, report the grant, this week, to citizens of this State, of the following patents: Robert E. Atkinson, Norfolk, disk harrow and leveler; Franz von Kigelgen and G. O. Seward, Holcomb Rock, decarburizing; Frederick Oliver, Portsmouth, press; Hiram M. Roudabush, Penn Laird, device for use in poultry culture.

The State board of education in Richmond yesterday morning concluded its investigation of the school census and found that only three counties showed irregularities—Buchanan, Dickenson and Henrico. The board approved the action of the department in reducing the census in the two former counties 15 per cent. and ordered that the local boards of those counties be so informed and given opportunity to explain the unusual heavy census given.

Fright is the cause assigned by the physicians of the City Hospital in Richmond for the death of James Neville, a small boy 12 years old. Neville was a witness to the tragedy on south Pine street Monday night, when Samuel Warner killed his brother-in-law, Leo Lee, with a shotgun. When the boy saw the blood flowing from the terrible wound in Lee's breast he was taken first with hysterics, then convulsions and finally became unconscious and died at the City Hospital Tuesday night of nervous shock.

Augustus Walker, whose home is near Woodstock, Shenandoah county, was taken to Winchester yesterday by Deputy United States Marshall J. W. Rhodes and given a hearing before United States Commissioner A. J. Tavenner, on the charge of complicity in the postoffice robberies at Maurertown, Shenandoah county, last summer. Walker was released on \$250 bail for his appearance at the United States Court at Lynchburg on March 15. The prisoner is 58 years old and is a veteran of the Mexican war.

It is understood that formal charges against Collector of the Port of Newport News J. E. B. Stuart have been forwarded to the committee on commerce of the United States Senate, and it is expected that a formal investigation will be demanded before any action shall be taken by the committee in reference to his confirmation. In addition to violations of the civil service laws, it is alleged in the charges that the collector is incompetent to perform the duties of the office, and it is asked that a special committee be appointed to investigate the charges and be empowered with authority to summon employees of the office to testify. Under the rules of the department, employees cannot volunteer to testify, but may be summoned for that purpose.

**Beware!** This means death to you at 10 o'clock. This was the message that greeted Joseph Marsala, one of the wealthiest and most prominent of Richmond's Italian residents, yesterday morning when he went to his office. It was inscribed in a labored hand with a lead pencil on the blade of a stiletto, fashioned out of soft pine wood. Marsala found the threat dangling before his eyes when he opened his store yesterday morning. There was considerable apprehension until 10 o'clock had passed without the threatened fatal visitation. A sharp watch was kept for suspicious-looking persons, but no arrests were made. The threat is one of several efforts made to extort \$500 from the merchant since April 18. He believes that anonymous demands came from the Black Hand Society.

## COURT OF APPEALS.

Tuesday's proceedings—Sands, trustee, vs. Stagg and others, fully argued and submitted.

American Tobacco Company vs. Pollice, by &c., argued and submitted.

Hall and others vs. Hall's admr. and others, partly argued and continued.

Yesterday's proceedings—Hall and others vs. Hall's administrator and others; argued and submitted.

United Moderns vs. Rathbun, etc., argued and submitted.

Swift and Co. vs. City of Newport News; partly argued and continued.

Next cases to be called: Norfolk and Western Railway Company v. Gee, being No. 19 on argument docket.

## For Cracked Hands.

Rough skin and cracked hands are not cured by DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve, but an occasional application will keep the skin soft and smooth. Best for Eczema, Cuts, Burns, etc. The genuine DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve affords immediate relief in all forms of Blind, Itching and Prurient Piles. Sold by W. F. Creighton & Co., 401 King street.

The Market, Georgetown, Dec. 14.—Wheat 65.25.

## Today's Telegraphic News

**Fresh Massacre and Mutiny.** St. Petersburg, Dec. 13 (via Eydtkuhne, Dec. 14).—The report of a fresh massacre of Jews, in which over 500 persons lost their lives, was received this morning from Turisk, Volhynia. The massacre was incited by a local priest, who called on the Christian population to rise and exterminate the Jews. A mob formed and attacked all the Jewish shops, killing and abusing all Jews who fell into its hands. The few Jews who escaped from the mob are destitute. Following the massacre the priest who incited the outrage preached a sermon in which he praised the awful deed. The local ecclesiastical authorities ordered that this sermon be printed and distributed broadcast throughout the country. It is feared that the result of the action will be to incite fresh massacres of Jews.

A mutiny has broken out among the soldiers in the city, although it is impossible to tell how serious it is. Four regiments have joined in a notice sent to the workmen in which they say: "You do not need to fear the bureaucracy any longer. We are with you, and we are resolved to annihilate all reactionaries. If we are ordered to fire on you we will not obey. We will not spare our cartridges, but they will not be directed against you."

The danger of a financial crash is still great, and fears that a ruinous panic will come unless the present strike is settled are still entertained by financiers. The St. Petersburg Bourse today sent a deputation to Premier Witte to urge the government to settle the postal and telegraphic strike at once. The delegation told Count Witte that the government should surrender to all of the demands of the strikers without delay if this is the only way in which the strike can be ended. Otherwise the gravest financial consequences are sure to follow.

## Castle Robbed.

Vienna, Dec. 14.—Burglars broke into the castle of Countess Lonyay, formerly Crown Princess Stephanie, of Belgium, at Bodroghulya, Hungary last evening and carried off a safe containing all the jewelry belonging to the Countess.

The burglars also destroyed considerable furniture. The castle at the present time is not occupied. Later thieves who are believed to be members of the same gang, entered the castle, broke into and robbed the railway station at Bodroghulya. They are still at large.

## Mine Workers' Convention.

Shamokin, Pa., Dec. 14.—With peace talk heard on every side eight hundred delegates, representing the various localities of the United Mine Workers of America in the anthracite field, met in convention here at 10 o'clock today to formulate a demand upon the operators for a full and complete recognition of the miners' union in the hard coal region. There will be other demands including the eight hour day, but they will be submitted if necessary to the chief issue, the recognition of the union. Mr. John Mitchell was elected chairman of the convention.

## Consistory.

Rome Dec. 14.—At the public consistory this morning Pope Pius X. walked quietly to his throne in the midst of a gorgeous pomp. The pontiff was given a most enthusiastic reception by the multitude and he was obviously pleased with his welcome. The new cardinals created at the recent secret consistory knelt at the throne and were blessed by the pope. After the ceremony they went into the Sistine Chapel to return thanks. The Pope's sister, Rosa, was taken suddenly ill today, but it is understood that her condition is not serious.

## Fire in Brooklyn.

New York, Dec. 14.—The large Cooper building at Bedford avenue and Fulton street, Brooklyn, together with the Windsor Cafe and a row of dwellings were destroyed by fire early this morning. The loss is estimated at \$200,000. The police and fire authorities are making a searching investigation regarding the origin of the fire. Persons who were first on the scene declare that the two distinct fires were burning in the portion of the building occupied by the harness company, and gave it as their opinion that it was the work of an incendiary.

## Two Children Burned to Death.

Elensburg, Pa., Dec. 14.—During the temporary absence from their home last night of John Lubek and wife, the house in which their two children were sleeping caught fire and was destroyed. The children were burned to death.

## The Battleship Louisiana.

Rockland, Me., Dec. 14.—The battleship Louisiana left on a four-hour endurance test at 9:30 a. m. today. From the Whitehead observatory the vessel appeared to be making good speed. The weather conditions are perfect.

## New British Cabinet.

London, Dec. 14.—The first meeting of the new British Cabinet was held this morning, and was attended by all the members.

## Collision and Loss of Life.

Brownsville, Pa., Dec. 14.—The Pittsburg and Morgantown passenger packet Rose Hite collided with a tow of coal barges near Lock No. 1 today and immediately sank. Four of the deck hands were drowned. Twelve passengers aboard the packet were rescued unharmed. The accident was due to a heavy fog.

## Operation Performed.

Vienna, Dec. 14.—Tracheotomy was successfully performed today on Archduke Otto to relieve a throat affection from which he has suffered for some time. Archduke Otto is the direct successor to the Austrian throne after his brother, the heir presumptive Francis Ferdinand.

## New York Stock Market.

New York, Dec. 14.—The stock market price movements during the first hour have been irregular. This caused heaviness in a number of the international shares in the early trading.

## A Bad Scar.

Some day you will get a bad scar, when you feel a pain in your bowels, and fear appendicitis. Safely lies in Dr. King's New Life Pills, a sure cure for all bowel and stomach diseases, such as headache, biliousness, costiveness, etc. Guaranteed at E. S. Leadbeater & Sons' drug store, only 25c. Try them.

## MARRIED.

In Philadelphia on Friday, December 8, 1905, by the rector of the Church of the Advent, Mr. WILLIAM F. LUTHER and Miss ADELENE V. WOODFIELD, of this city.

## DIED.

In New York, December 13, 1905, Mrs. CAROLINE WATERMAN, widow of Simon Waterman, aged 85 years. The remains will reach this city at 3 o'clock p. m. tomorrow (Friday) by the ferry boat and the interment will be made in the Jewish cemetery in this city.

## Fifty-ninth Congress.

Washington, Dec. 13. SENATE.

Immediately after convening today the Senate gave consideration to a bill reported by the finance committee giving the Panama canal bonds all the rights and privileges accorded on other two per cent. U. S. bonds.

The bill passed without opposition. The McCumber pure food bill, which caused a great struggle at the last session was reported with amendments.

Senator Elkins, chairman of the committee on interstate commerce, verbally reported that his committee was not able at this time to report a railroad rate regulation bill but that it hoped to do so later on.

While Messrs. Teller and Hopkins were defending the administration of former Canal Engineer Wallace, an extract from Secretary of War Taft's speech at St. Louis, was read by Mr. Tillman, which stated that Wallace had absolute control of affairs on the isthmus.

Tillman declared that Congress or the Senate committee on oceanic canals should fully investigate who was in the right. "Wallace charges that his hands were tied by red tape," he exclaimed. "Let him come here and vindicate himself."

## HOUSE.

Representative Nicholas Longworth, of Ohio, whose engagement to Miss Alice Roosevelt has been announced, was the center of attraction for the visitors in the galleries and the members upon floor of the House when the House met today. Democrats and republicans in a steady stream walked over to the seat of the Ohio member and congratulating him, pronounced him a "lucky man." In committee of the whole the House again gave consideration to the resolution providing for the distribution to committees of the matters touched upon by the President in his annual message. The controversy as to whether the President's recommendations on the question of insurance regulation should be referred to the committee on ways and means or the committee on interstate and foreign commerce was resumed.

## Scene in the House.

Democratic linen was washed in the House yesterday for more than four hours, when Messrs. Lamar, of Florida, and Shackelford, of Missouri, made bitter personal attacks upon the democratic floor leader, Mr. Williams, because of their displacement from the committee on interstate commerce. The trouble was egged on by the republican floor leader, Representative Payne, of New York. Mr. Williams' replies to Messrs. Lamar and Shackelford were dignified and able. He was loudly applauded by the democrats at every point. He flayed his assailants with biting sarcasm and brilliant wit, but in the main he devoted himself to a serious discussion of reasons that impelled him to take both men from the committee.

He wants the democratic committee to unite its proposition, whether agreed to by the republicans or not. He said, in substance, that Shackelford had supported the bill in the last Congress, intended to exploit Hearst and not to aid legislation, he could not permit such men to have a hand in shaping the rate measure the democrats expect to vote for. Addressing the republicans, he said: "The country is tired of us, and afraid of us, and an exhibition like this now taking place is one of the reasons the country is afraid of the democratic party."

Mr. Lamar, in speaking of Williams, likened him to the image of a shriveled ape, spoke of his deep contempt for the minority leader, and would have gone further in his tirade, but he was called to order by Representative Butler, of Pennsylvania, who occupied the chair.

## Russian Affairs.

The situation seems somewhat brighter in Russia generally and telegraphic communication has been partially restored. In Riga the Lithuanian insurgents are said to be in control and in the Baltic provinces the situation is grave. From St. Petersburg emanate reports that the situation is improving and that there is now some prospect of Witte being able to weather the storm.

A panic prevails on the Bourse at Moscow and the complete collapse of business in the province has been attended with many bankruptcies.

A provisional government has been set up in Livonia and many of the troops have gone over to the insurrectionists.

The Workmen's Council of Moscow has decided against a general strike. Lack of funds is given as the reason. Unsuccessful efforts have been made to break the telegraph strike in Russia. The strikers daily cut the wires.

A reign of terror exists in Riga, and the fort commanding the harbor is in possession of the revolutionists.

The Russian strikers have burned the country mansions of many nobles, including that of Count Shakhovskoi.

**The First Chapters of "The Masqueraders" and "Five Christmas Stories" in the Xmas Number of the Sunday North American.**

The Philadelphia North American promises something decidedly out of the ordinary in its issue for December 17, the Christmas edition of the Sunday paper. The management has secured six Christmas stories by the best-known authors, and will also bring the serial publication of "The Masquerader," by Katherine Cecil Thurston, the novel that has been praised by all of the critics as the greatest that has been written in the last ten years.

The short stories are: "A Stolen Christmas," by Mary F. Wilkins Freeman; "Davy's Christmas," by Annie Trumbull Slosson; "Solomon Crow's Christmas Pockets," by Ruth McEnery Stuart; "A Journey in Search of Christmas," by Owen Wister; "An Engineer's Christmas Story," by John A. Hill, and "The Christmas Gifts of Thaddeus," by John Kendrick Bangs.

The front cover of the magazine is said to be the finest head of Kris Kringle ever printed in a newspaper. There is a poem by Peter B. Doyle that the young folks will be reciting at the holiday entertainments.

All the magazine articles and comics will be full of the Christmas spirit, and one page that will be thoroughly practical is that which tells about the cost of the Christmas presents that are bought annually in the big cities. The edition will be limited, owing to the extra work necessitated by the special features so that it will be necessary to order the papers in advance.

## News of the Day.

The Senate in executive session yesterday confirmed the nomination of Charles A. Stillings, of Massachusetts, to be public printer.

Mr. Louis McLane, uncle of the late Mayor Robert M. McLane and brother of the late Robert M. McLane, ex-Governor of Maryland and ex-Minister to France, died yesterday at his residence, in Baltimore.

George W. Perkins has resigned as vice president of the New York Life Insurance Company, and will be succeeded by Alexander F. Orr, former vice president of the Rapid Transit Commission of New York.

Miss Nellie Ainsworth, of Madison, Wis., and her cousin, Bert Stewart, a young farmer living near Brighton, Mich., were drowned yesterday while skating on Bishop's Lake. The couple broke through the ice.

Yesterday evening a heavy runa trolley car dashing down College Street, Madison, Pa., faster than a minute, struck the heavily loaded bridge Spring car, killing two passengers and injuring a dozen or more.

The mixing house, or upper "punching" department of the Dupont Powder Mills, located eight miles north of Birmingham, Ala., blew up yesterday morning, and five men met a horrible death. The explosion was heard for fifteen miles.

President Gordon, white, of Howard University, Washington, a negro institution, has tendered his resignation to the Board of Trustees, on account of the recent revolt of students who objected to the president's views on the subject of the negro.

Four school children were drowned early last night while skating on Kellogg's pond in Amsterdam, N. Y. A party of ten boys and girls were skating in a circle 200 feet from shore when the leader, a girl, broke through the ice. Before the children who were following her could check their speed all plunged into the hole. All but four of the children were rescued.